

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 6
Extension of Public Comment Period and Rescheduling of Public Meetings
Draft Permit

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Region 6, plans to reissue the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) general permit (ID NMR040000) for storm water discharges from small municipal separate storm sewer systems (MS4s) located within the State of New Mexico except MS4s located in Indian lands, Los Alamos County, the Middle Rio Grande Sub-Watersheds described in Appendix A of the NPDES permit No NMR04A000, or within the area of another MS4 permit. This proposed permit offers discharge authorization to regulated small MS4s within the boundaries of the Bureau of the Census-designated 2000 and 2010 Farmington, Santa Fe, Los Lunas, Las Cruces and El Paso Urbanized Areas and any other small MS4s in the State of New Mexico designated by the Director as needing a MS4 permit, other than those primarily located in Los Alamos. A Federal Register notice in July 30, 2015 announced availability of the draft permit and supporting documents for public review.

EPA Region 6 is announcing today an extension of the public comment period and rescheduling of public meetings. A Federal Register notice is also being published to announce these changes. Written comments must now be submitted in writing to EPA on or before December 18, 2015. Copies of the draft permit, fact sheet, and Federal Register notices have been posted at <http://epa.gov/region6/water/npdes/sw/sms4/index.htm>. The Federal Register notices also provide instructions on how to submit comments and obtain copies of documents. Backup copies of the draft permit and supporting documents are also available at New Mexico Environment Department website at <https://www.env.nm.gov/swqb/WQA/Notice/>

New locations and dates for the rescheduled public meetings are included below.

El Paso Urbanized Area Meeting:

Date and Time: Monday November 16, 2015 from 1:00 pm – 2:30 pm MST

Location: New Mexico State University

Dona Ana Community College-Sunland Park Campus
Room 102 - Auditorium
3365 McNutt Rd
Sunland Park, NM 88063

Las Cruces Urbanized Area Meeting:

Date and Time: Monday November 16, 2015 from 6:00 pm – 7:30 pm MST

Location: New Mexico State University

Dona Ana Community College-East Mesa Campus
Student Resource Building
2800 N. Sonoma Ranch Blvd.
Las Cruces, NM 88003

Los Lunas Urbanized Area Meeting:

Date and Time: Tuesday November 17, 2015 from 6:00 pm – 7:30 pm MST

Location: Holiday Inn Express Belen
2110 Camino del Llano
Belen, NM 87002

Santa Fe Urbanized Area Meeting:

Date and Time: Wednesday November 18, 2015 from 6:00 pm – 7:30 pm MST

Location: The Lodge at Santa Fe
750 N. St. Francis Dr.
Santa Fe, NM 87501

Farmington Urbanized Area Meeting:

Date and Time: Thursday November 19, 2015 at 6:00 pm – 7:30 pm MST

Location: Courtyard by Marriott Farmington
560 Scott Ave
Farmington, NM 87401

For more information, please contact Ms. Evelyn Rosborough, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 6, 1445 Ross Avenue, Dallas, Texas 75202-2733 or Rosborough.Evelyn@epa.gov.

State Certification

The notice also serves as Public Notice of the intent of the New Mexico Environment Department, Surface Water Quality Bureau to consider issuing Clean Water Act (CWA) Section 401 Certification. The purpose of such certification is to reasonably ensure that the permitted activities will be conducted in a manner that will comply with applicable New Mexico water quality standards, including the antidegradation policy, and the statewide water quality management plan. The NPDES permit will not be issued until the certification requirements of Section 401 have been met.

If you want to comment on State Certification, submit written comments by December 18, 2015, to:

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Surface Water Quality Bureau
New Mexico Environment Department
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